

# AMTAC

American Manufacturing Trade Action Coalition

[www.amtacdc.org](http://www.amtacdc.org)

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June 18, 2012

The Honorable Dave Camp  
U.S. House Committee on Ways and Means  
1102 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Sandy Levin  
U.S. House Committee on Ways and Means  
1102 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Camp and Ranking Member Levin:

Thank you for your strong leadership in bringing together a new miscellaneous tariff bill (MTB) process, a vitally important piece of legislation for hundreds of large and small American manufacturers, their workers, and their customers. I am writing to let you know of AMTAC's strong support for the extension of duty suspension legislation for acrylic fiber. H.R. 4554 to extend the suspension of duty on acrylic fiber was introduced by Representative Walter Jones on April 24, 2012.

The American Manufacturing Trade Action Coalition (AMTAC) is a not-for-profit trade association founded by domestic manufacturers who are committed to manufacturing here in the United States. Our objective is to seek the establishment of trade policy and other measures designed to stabilize the U.S. industrial base and thus preserve and create American manufacturing jobs. AMTAC represents a significant component the U.S. textile industry, including the yarn, fabric, dyeing and finishing, and apparel sectors.

Acrylic fiber is the primary raw material and highest cost input for U.S. textile manufacturers utilizing these fibers and currently must be imported because there is no domestic supplier for this product. Because acrylic fiber production has ceased in the United States, the imposition of a tariff on these products can no longer be justified, especially when such a tariff puts U.S. manufacturers at a competitive disadvantage. Due to the fact that all U.S. production of acrylic fiber has ceased, the continued suspension of this duty should have no adverse consequences for domestic businesses and should not attract controversy. In addition, this duty advantage will benefit not only the domestic textile industry, but will deliver downstream benefits to customers and help sustain and promote job creation.

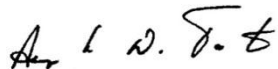
As you know, the current economic environment has put incredible demands on companies to become as lean as possible. While U.S. textile manufacturers are some of the most productive in the world, their ability to compete greatly depends on the continued ability of companies to

source raw materials, i.e. acrylic fiber, at competitive prices. Because of the unique characteristics of these fibers – water resistant, fade resistant, durability – manufacturers who use these raw materials are at the high-end of the value-added chain and can compete against foreign manufacturers as long as they have access to raw materials at competitive prices. Competitors in Canada, Europe, China, India, among others do not incur tariffs on acrylic fiber, and in order for U.S. producers who use these fibers to remain competitive, they must also be able to source these fibers at globally competitive prices since there is no longer a domestic supply of this product.

We thank you for your commitment to the MTB and look forward to working with you as this process moves forward.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. I. N. S. B." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Augustine Tantillo  
Executive Director